

W401
W48M55

MINUTES

OF THE

SECOND ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

REPRESENTATIVES

OF THE

WESLEYAN ASSOCIATION.

BW401

.W48M55

Wesley Memorial Library

Thursfield Smith Collection
of
Wesleyana



Atlanta, - Georgia

Wes. 1541

MINUTES
OF THE
SECOND ANNUAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE
WESLEYAN ASSOCIATION,

BEGUN IN
LIVERPOOL ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2nd, 1837.

LONDON :
PUBLISHED BY J. M. HARE, 153, FLEET-STREET ;
TO BE HAD AT THE TABERNACLE, STEVENSON'S SQUARE, MANCHESTER ;
THE MUSIC HALL, AND GLEAVE'S, DALE STREET, LIVERPOOL ;
W. BEAN AND SON'S, LEEDS ; AND OF ALL OTHER
BOOKSELLERS.

MDCCCXXXVII.

1837

BW 401

.W 48 M 55

Wes. 1541

MINUTES,

&c.

AT the Second Meeting of the Representatives of the
WESLEYAN ASSOCIATION in their Annual Assembly, held
in the Music Hall, Bold-street, Liverpool, begun Wed-
nesday, August 2nd, and continued, by adjournments,
to Friday August 11, 1837, inclusive ;

SAMUEL WARREN, LL. D. President, in the Chair,

MATTHEW JOHNSON, Secretary,

The Meeting proceeded to receive the Names and
Certificates of the Representatives present, when the
following persons were ascertained to be authorized to
attend :—

<i>Manchester</i>	-	John Greenhalgh,
		William Souter,
		J. J. Lees,
		George Hughes,
		William Matthews,
		George Taylor,
		John Hart,
		Thomas Townend,
		J. H. Roebuck,
		David Rutherford.

<i>Liverpool</i>	-	John Peters, Richard Farrer, David Rowland, William Johnson.
<i>Leeds</i>	- -	James Sigston, William Lister, Joah Mallinson, John Yewdall.
<i>Rochdale</i>	-	James Livesey, Elisha Townend, M. Cheetham, James Molineux, John Lord.
<i>London</i>	- -	Robert Eckett.
<i>Brompton and Chat-</i>		
<i>ham</i>	- -	A letter sent.
<i>Sittingbourne</i>	-	A letter sent.
<i>Macclesfield</i>	-	Thomas Burgess.
<i>Stockport</i>	-	William Smith.
<i>New Mills</i>	-	Thomas Waller.
<i>Todmorden</i>	..	William Slater, John Hill.
<i>Burnley</i>	- -	Thomas Wilkinson.
<i>Northwich</i>	-	John Thompson, James Edwards.
<i>Nantwich</i>	-	Ralph Downing.
<i>Ruabon</i>	- -	Thomas Hughes.
<i>Blackburn</i>	-	John Ward.
<i>Preston</i>	- -	John Johnstone.
<i>Keighley</i>	- -	Joseph Smith.
<i>Clitheroe</i>	-	John Broadley.
<i>Sheffield</i>	- -	George Turton.

<i>Worksop</i>	-	-	George Tracey.
<i>Barnsley</i>	-	-	A letter sent.
<i>Bradford</i>	-	-	John Robson.
<i>Ipswich</i>	-	-	Charles Edwards.
<i>Birmingham</i>	-	-	William Lilley.
<i>Redditch</i>	-	-	Henry Breeden.
<i>Worcester</i>	-	-	T. A. Bayley.
<i>Nuneaton</i>	-	-	Joseph Ward.
<i>Bristol and Worle</i>			Thomas Ellery.
<i>Camelford</i>	-	-	William Patterson, Carpenter Arthur.
<i>Helston</i>	-	-	Samuel James.
<i>Tavistock</i>	-	-	
<i>Devonport and Ply-</i>			
<i>mouth</i>	-	-	
<i>Winchester</i>	-	-	
<i>Nottingham and New</i>			
<i>Basford</i>	-	-	Samuel Statham.
<i>Derby</i>	-	-	Henry Hawgood.
<i>Leicester</i>	-	-	John Traviss.
<i>Hull</i>	-	-	John Rayner.
<i>Louth and Alford</i>			Richard Knight.
<i>York</i>	-	-	William Cruickshank.
<i>Scarborough</i>	-	-	Matthew Baxter.
<i>Whitby</i>	-	-	Richard Abercrombie.
<i>Sunderland</i>	-	-	Edward Rymer, T. B. Young.
<i>Newcastle-upon-Tyne</i>			Joseph Wilkinson.
<i>Darlington</i>	-	-	John Kipling.
<i>Stockton and Yarm</i>			Letter sent.
<i>Whitehaven</i>	-	-	Neriah Pearson.
<i>Kendal</i>	-	-	Letter sent.

<i>Appleby</i>	-	-	William Mackenny.
<i>Carlisle</i>	-	-	William Dawson.
<i>Edinburgh</i>	-	-	Robert Anderson.
<i>Glasgow</i>	-	-	Andrew Kelly.
<i>Dundee</i>	-	-	D. K. Shoebottom.
<i>Carrickfergus</i>	-	-	Samuel Hayes.

Itinerant Preachers in Full Connexion present.

Samuel Warren, LL. D.

John Averill,

Joseph Blythman.

Preachers not in Full Connexion.

Joseph Worrall,	Joseph Handley,
Joseph Woolstenholme,	William Ince,
Enoch Darke,	Michael Beswick,
William Cave,	Francis Brown,
Richard Chester,	Richard Williams,
Edward Wright,	James Edgar.
J. W. Gilchrist,	

All the preceding Itinerant Preachers were in attendance at the meeting, principally at the request of the Connexional Committee, most of them to be received into Full Connexion. It was therefore

Resolved, That those brethren be at liberty to take a part in the discussion of any business which may be brought before the Annual Assembly, but not to vote upon it.

I. The Meeting proceeded to elect their President and Secretary, when the following persons were declared to be duly elected :

JAMES LIVESEY, President,

MATTHEW JOHNSON, Secretary.

II. *Resolved*, That for the present, the Sitzings of this meeting be open to the members of the Association, on shewing their tickets : and that other persons may be admitted on receiving a note from the President.

III. *Resolved*, That the most cordial and unanimous thanks of the meeting be presented to Dr. Warren, for his very able and efficient discharge of the duties connected with the Presidency, during the past year.

IV. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the meeting be presented to Mr. Matthew Johnson, for his efficient services as Secretary during the preceding year.

V. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the meeting are due to Mr. J. J. Lees, and Mr. John Peters, for their aid as Secretary and Sub-Secretary at the last Annual Assembly.

VI. *Resolved*, That the Preachers who are received into Full Connexion, be publicly acknowledged by the President at the time when the Address to the Preachers generally shall be given ; and that the President shall be at liberty to call upon any of the brethren received into Full Connexion, to give a statement of their conversion to God, and call to the Ministry.

VII. RESOLUTIONS ON UNION.

Resolved, 1. That the proposal on the part of the Independent Primitive Methodists of Scarborough to unite with the Association, as arranged by the Connexional Committee, be now approved and confirmed.

2. That the Arminian Methodists having communicated with the Connexional Committee, with a view to a union of their entire body with the Association, and arrangements having been made by the Committee for

this purpose, the Meeting has great pleasure in giving its sanction and confirmation to such a measure.

3. That a communication having been received from the friends who have seceded from the Conference Connexion at Sunderland, proposing to unite with the Association, provided the general principles contained in page 15, in the Minutes of last year, be maintained inviolate, and Circuit Independency continue to be secured; the Meeting feels it proper to declare, that it regards those principles as sacred, from which they trust the Association will never depart. The Meeting has therefore much satisfaction in accepting the proposal of the Sunderland brethren to unite with them.

VIII. PRINCIPLES AND CONSTITUTION OF THE WESLEYAN ASSOCIATION.

Although delay to publish a formula of the Constitution of the WESLEYAN ASSOCIATION in the Minutes of last year was deemed prudent, both on account of proposals then about to be made to certain Sections of Methodists relative to a general union, and also to afford more time to deliberate on so momentous a subject; yet a few General Principles, after long and anxious consideration, were then adopted as the basis of the future constitution.

The three following principles, after the lapse of another year, have commended themselves to the judgment and approbation of the body at large, and are now adopted and published as permanent principles of the WESLEYAN ASSOCIATION. They are as follows:—

General Principles.

First, That this Association recognizes, and holds, as the only and sufficient rule of faith and practice, and also of Church Government, the Holy Scriptures, especially the New Testament of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and regards as matters indifferent, so far as membership with a Christian Church is concerned, whatever is not manifestly enjoined in those infallible records.

Second, That on subjects of Christian doctrine, they concur in those sentiments generally taught in the Theological writings of the Rev. John Wesley, and which are admitted by the various branches of the Methodist community as being consistent with the Holy Scriptures.

Third, That each Circuit has the right and power to govern itself by its Local Courts, without the interference of any Yearly Meeting, as to the management of its internal affairs.

On the Construction of the Annual Assembly.

1. That the Annual Assembly consist of Travelling and Local Preachers, and other Members of the Society, official or private. The respective Circuits have the right of sending as their representatives such person or persons belonging to their Circuit as they may freely elect, subject only to the regulation as to number to be adopted by the Annual Assembly ; and that the following officers be also members of the Meeting, namely, the Ex-President and Ex-Secretary, the Corresponding Secretary of the Connexional Committee, and the Treasurer of the Connexional Fund.

2. That the President and Secretary of the Annual Assembly shall be chosen by ballot.

3. That such Circuits as approve of an Itinerant Ministry under the direction of the Annual Assembly, or contribute to the general funds of the Connexion, have the right to send representatives to attend its sittings, and take part in all its affairs: That all other Circuits who may wish to unite in plans of general usefulness be at liberty to send representatives for such purposes.

4. That each Circuit not having more than 500 members, send *one* representative; those having upwards of 500, and not more than 1000, *two*; upwards of 1000, *three*; and that the united Churches in Scotland be entitled to choose two at *their* Annual Meeting; each Circuit in Scotland receiving an Itinerant Minister, to be entitled to send one representative.

5. That the four preceding Resolutions are not to be altered except upon the Annual Assembly recommending such alteration to the consideration of the Societies,—such recommendation to be published in the Minutes immediately after the close of the Annual Assembly,—and a majority of the representatives of the Societies at the ensuing Annual Assembly concur in such alteration.

The Functions of the Annual Assembly.

1. To admit Preachers into, or, if necessary, to exclude them from, the Itinerancy; including a power to decide as to the piety, doctrinal views, and gifts of the Preachers.

2. To arrange and finally adjust the Stations of the Itinerant Preachers, endeavouring, as far as possible, to meet the wishes of the Circuits and Preachers.

3. To manage all the public funds of the Association


necessary for the maintenance and extension of the Itinerancy, and for the promotion of such plans of general usefulness as may be approved by the Association at large.

In order to provide suitable Preachers for the Itinerancy, and to afford equal protection for the Preachers, and for the Circuits on which they may be stationed, the following regulations are adopted :—

1. That all Preachers to be admitted as Probationers for the Itinerancy, shall previously have been approved by a majority at the Quarterly Meetings of the Circuits in which they reside, except in any extraordinary case which in the judgment of the Annual Assembly may justify the employment of any person not so recommended ; but, in such case, the confirmation of the ensuing Annual Assembly shall be requisite.

2. That after a Preacher has completed his term of probation satisfactorily, he shall be publicly recognized as fully admitted into the Itinerant Ministry during the session of the Annual Assembly.

3. That the Annual Assembly shall not be obliged to entertain a charge from any Circuit against an Itinerant Preacher, unless it shall have been previously proved to the satisfaction of a majority of the Quarterly Meeting of the Circuit where he resides.

 The following regulations relating to the constitution and functions of local official meetings and on the terms and privileges of Church membership, are strongly recommended for the adoption of the respective Circuits :—

On the Composition of Quarterly Meetings.

1. That the Itinerant and Local Preachers, Leaders, Stewards, and Trustees, being Members of Society, should be Members of the Quarterly Meeting in virtue of their offices; together with such other Members as the respective Societies may think fit to be added to them.

2. That each Circuit appoint any Preacher it may think best qualified to fill the office of Chairman to the Circuit, subject to such regulations as the Circuit may think fit to adopt.

3. That should any Itinerant Preacher be charged by the majority of a Trustees' or Leaders' Meeting with immorality, error in doctrine, incompetency, or neglect of duty, the Circuit Stewards shall summon the members of the Quarterly Meeting to judge of the alleged charge or charges; a majority of which may, in extreme cases, proceed to the sentence of suspension from all ministerial functions in that Circuit till the next Annual Assembly. A copy *in writing* of the charge or charges brought against him, together with the name or names of his accuser or accusers, shall be given to him, a week being allowed him to prepare his defence. The accuser and the accused, each of them, shall have the right of calling in the aid of a member of the Connexional Committee, *who shall not vote*: the Connexional Committee—to which he may appeal—to have the power of employing a Preacher suspended by a Circuit, and also of paying him his salary out of the Connexional fund, until the next Annual Assembly.

On the Preachers' and Leaders' Meeting.

1. A Preachers' Meeting should be held in each

Circuit, *at least* once a quarter, to inquire whether the Preachers have faithfully attended to their appointments,—whether their piety, talents, and doctrinal views are such as render them fit persons to be continued in the Ministry; to examine candidates for admission into the Ministry; and such other business as may require their attention.

2. That the Leaders' Meeting should consist of the Chairman of the Circuit when present,—of the Leaders, Society Stewards, and Poor's Stewards, with the Chapel or Trustee Stewards, being members of Society; together with such other persons as the respective Quarterly Meetings may think proper to add to them; and to have the management of the affairs of their respective Societies, subject to the final revision of the Quarterly Meeting, in case of appeal against any of its decisions.

On Church Membership and General Privileges.

1. That all persons who profess a desire to flee from the wrath to come, and to be saved from their sins, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and who evidence their sincerity by renouncing sin and yielding obedience to the Divine Commands, are eligible to become members of our Societies.

2. That no private member shall be subjected to Church censure, suspension from privileges, or exclusion from the Society, without the consent of a majority of the Leaders' or Society Meeting.

3. That any charge affecting the character of any official person in our Societies, should be investigated by the official meeting to which he belongs.

4. That in all cases of dissatisfaction, whether of an

officer or private member of Society, at the decision of any minor meeting, an appeal shall lie to the Quarterly Meeting, as the highest local authority, whose decision shall be final.

5. That any officer or private member of Society, upon shewing his quarterly token of membership, shall have a right to attend the public sittings of the Annual Assembly, except when, from special and peculiar circumstances, the meeting shall otherwise determine ; but not to take part in its business.

IX. PRESENT ORDER OF THE STANDING OF THE
PREACHERS.

Preachers now in Full Connexion.

Samuel Warren, LL.D.	Henry Breeden,
John Averill,	James Slack,
Joseph Blythman,	John Wright.

Preachers now to be received into Full Connexion.

William Cruickshank,	Joseph Woolstenholme,
William Cave,	William Ince,
James Edgar,	Neriah Pearson,
Joseph Worrall,	James Molineux,
Joseph Handley,	William Mackenny,
Enoch Darke,	John Peters,
George Smith,	Matthew Baxter,
David Rutherford,	Thomas Townend,
J. W. Gilchrist,	William Patterson.

To remain one year longer on Probation.

Richard Chester.

Travelled two years.

Joseph Townend,
 Samuel Sellers,
 Robert Harley,
 J. B. Sheppard,

J. H. Roebuck,
 Joseph Ward,
 Joseph Nightingale,
 W. R. Brown.

Travelled one year.

Anthony Gilbert,
 John Cartwright,
 T. A. Bayley,
 Michael Beswick,
 William Griffith,
 Edward Wright,
 Richard Abercrombie,
 William Dawson,

Francis Brown,
 Charles Edwards,
 William Edwards,
 Thomas Ellery,
 Richard Williams,
 Thomas Poynton,
 Henry Williams.

To be now received on Trial.

William Jones,
 Benjamin Glazebrook,
 Thomas Alcock,
 Thomas Pearson,
 Thomas Gardner Lee,

Richard Knight,
 George Robinson,
 Edwin Watmough,
 Aaron Weston.

Desisted from the Itinerancy.

John Robinson, whose state of health disqualified him.

X. STATIONS OF THE PREACHERS.

Manchester - Samuel Warren, LL.D.*
 John Averill,
 James Edgar,
 J. H. Roebuck,

* Communications for the Connexional Committee, must be addressed (post paid) to Dr. WARREN, No. 46, Tipping-Street, Manchester.

		Anthony Gilbert, David Rutherford.
<i>Liverpool</i>	-	John Peters, Richard Chester, who will reside at Prescott. One to be sent.
<i>Leeds</i>	-	Enoch Darke, William Edwards, One wanted.
<i>Rochdale</i>	-	James Molineux, Joseph Woolstenholme, Joseph Handley.
<i>Macclesfield</i>	-	Edward Wright.
<i>Stockport</i>	-	Joseph Blythman.
<i>New Mills</i>	-	William Ince.
<i>Todmorden</i>	-	William Griffith.
<i>Burnley</i>	-	William Dawson, Francis Brown.
<i>Northwich</i>	-	Thomas Gardner Lee.
<i>Nantwich</i>	-	Jamison B. Sheppard.
<i>Ruabon</i>	-	Benjamin Glazebrook.
<i>Blackburn</i>	-	Michael Beswick.
<i>Preston</i>	-	John Cartwright.
<i>Keighley</i>	-	Thomas Poynton.
<i>Clitheroe</i>	-	Joseph Worrall.
<i>Sheffield</i>	-	Richard Knight: to exchange occasionally with the Worksop Preacher.
<i>Worksop</i>	-	John Wright: to exchange occasionally with the Shef- field Preacher.
<i>Barnsley</i>	-	William Cruickshank.

<i>Bradford</i>	-	Samuel Sellers: to exchange occasionally with the Leeds Preachers.
<i>Ipswich</i>	-	Charles Edwards, One wanted.
<i>Birmingham</i>	-	Richard Abercrombie.
<i>Redditch</i>	-	Henry Breeden.
<i>Worcester</i>	-	Thomas Maguire.
<i>Nuneaton</i>	-	James Slack.
<i>Bristol and Worle</i>		Thomas Ellery, Thomas Alcock. It is recommended that brother Alcock reside at Bristol.
<i>Camelford</i>	-	William Patterson, W. R. Brown, Henry Williams, Aaron Weston.
<i>Helston</i>	-	Robert Harley, One to be sent.
<i>Derby</i>	-	William Cave, William Jones.
<i>Leicester</i>	-	Richard Williams.
<i>Hull</i>	-	Joseph Townend.
<i>Louth and Alford</i>		Joseph Ward.
<i>York</i>	-	Thomas A. Bayley.
<i>Scarborough</i>	-	Matthew Baxter.
<i>Whitby</i>	-	Joseph Nightingale.
<i>Sunderland</i>	-	Thomas Pearson, George Robinson.
<i>Newcastle on Tyne</i>		Edwin Watmough. An occasional interchange of Preachers is recommended

between the Sunderland and
Newcastle Circuits.

<i>Darlington</i>	-	George Smith.
<i>Whitehaven</i>	-	Neriah Pearson.
<i>Appleby</i>	-	William Mackenny.
<i>Carlisle</i>	-	John Wesley Gilchrist.
<i>Edinburgh</i>	-	Thomas Townend.

XI. MISCELLANEOUS.

Resolved, 1. That the members of this Association are desirous of cultivating, to the utmost of their ability, a catholic spirit, and to live on terms of the most affectionate Christian Communion with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ. But they especially desire union with all the branches of the Methodist Family.

2. That it is desirable that some plan should be devised by which the different Societies who are separated from the Wesleyan Conference may be brought so to unite, as that they may regard each other as members of one common family, professing one common faith, cultivating friendship towards each other, adopting a common token of membership, and uniting as may be practicable in promoting plans for general usefulness. Each Society to be at liberty to have such particular rules as to Church government, and as to its ministry, as they may think proper to adopt; provided that there be nothing in the rules so adopted clearly repugnant to the Word of God.

3. That the Meeting having already placed on the Minutes an expression of its desire to establish a general Christian Confederation with such Societies of Methodists as are

not already united with the Wesleyan Association, and appointed a Committee to carry into effect its wishes in this respect, deems it proper also to instruct the Committee to enter into negotiation with any sections of Methodists adopting a system of Itinerancy, and holding Doctrinal and Disciplinary views in unison with the Association, who are wishful to form a General Connexional Union with it, subject, in all cases, to the approval and sanction of the Annual Assembly.

XII. *Resolved*, 1. That this Meeting taking into its consideration the great and beneficial results of an Itinerant Ministry, as exhibited in the whole history of Methodism, feels it a duty strongly to recommend to such Circuits in the Wesleyan Association as have not already adopted this system, to avail themselves as early as convenient of its advantages.

2. That a Home Mission and Connexional Fund be established for the purpose of aiding those Circuits desirous of availing themselves of Itinerancy, whose means, arising from their limited numbers, or other peculiar circumstances, prevent them from wholly maintaining a Stationed Preacher; and also for the purpose of employing Home Missionaries in such parts of the kingdom as may be deemed advisable.

3. That it be recommended to the Circuits in the Association to contribute to the support of this fund, by a Yearly Collection in the Classes, to be mentioned at the March Quarterly Visitation, and the money to be collected by the Leaders in May following; and also by an Annual Collection, or the holding of an Annual Home Missionary Meeting; or in some other way more convenient to themselves.

4. That this fund shall be under the management of the Connexional Committee, to whom all applications for assistance shall be made.

XIII. The Meeting went into the consideration of a Report from the Connexional Committee.

Resolved, 1. That on reviewing the proceedings of the Committee, in reference to a contemplated union of the Wesleyan Association and the New Connexion, this Meeting is of opinion, that the Committee, in their anxiety to promote so desirable an object, conceded to the friends of the New Connexion points, which more mature consideration cannot sanction or justify—on the functions of the proposed Conference, more especially. To assign to it “*legislative authority*,” notwithstanding any limitations and restrictions which at the time might have verbally accompanied the use of that term, was, in the settled views of the Association on that question, more than doubtful; and might prove a source of great inconvenience, if not of absolute danger to the interests of the united body, if formed on such a basis.

2. That as it respects the conditions of union contained in the resolutions of the Conference of the New Connexion, this Meeting feels it a duty to declare, that although sincerely desirous of promoting to the utmost, on fair and reasonable terms, a cordial and lasting union with that religious body, the Association did not contemplate being called upon, and is not prepared to sacrifice its own separate identity, whilst that of the New Connexion should be preserved, as the mode by which *alone* such a desideratum could be effected. And the Meeting is led to believe, that on further considering the

subject, the friends of the New Connexion will themselves be of opinion, that a union so formed, as it would not accord with the present relative position, and just claims of the two bodies; so neither would it be calculated to promote the high and important objects which ought ever to be paramount in such a negociation.

3. That it will afford to the Annual Assembly great pleasure and satisfaction, to receive from the Conference of the New Connexion terms of union, founded on a due consideration of all the various interests involved in this important question; and such as, by removing or preventing all causes of jealousy, shall prepare the way for the two bodies being brought together in "the unity of the Spirit, and the bond of peace." And, in the meantime, the Meeting recommends to the entire Association, the cultivation of a kindly and Christian spirit towards the New Connexion, and would respectfully suggest to both parties, such interchanges of ministerial aid as may be mutually convenient and advantageous.

4. That a copy of these resolutions be officially sent to the Rev. Thomas Allin, the Corresponding Member of the Annual Committee of that body.

XIV. *Resolved*, 1. That an extensive and numerous body of Methodists having seceded from the Parent Society in the United States of America, on principles of a similar nature to those which have called into existence the Wesleyan Association, and are now established under the designation of "Methodist Protestants;" this Meeting feels much pleasure in offering to the Members of that religious community its sincere expressions of good will and brotherly affection, and its best wishes for their future welfare and prosperity.

2. That the President and Secretary correspond at an early period with that religious body, and convey to them the sentiments of the Meeting now expressed.

XV. Some information having been laid before the Meeting relative to the Rev. Thomas Pennock, of Jamaica, in the West Indies, and the Society of Wesleyan Methodists under his care, from which it appears that a friendly disposition exists on their part towards the Association:—

Resolved, That the Connexional Committee be requested to avail themselves of such opportunities as may occur, of corresponding with Mr. Pennock on this subject.

XVI. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Meeting are due, and are hereby presented to Mr. Jabez Sanderson, for his valuable services as Treasurer during the past year.

XVII. *Resolved*, That William Smith, Esq., of Reddish House, be respectfully requested to accept the office of General Treasurer to the Association.

XVIII, *Resolved*, 1. That the following Brethren compose the Connexional Committee, during the ensuing year, viz.

The President and Secretary,

Samuel Warren, LL.D., Corresponding Secretary,

William Smith, Esq., Treasurer,

Ashworth, George,

Kipling, John,

Averill, John,

Mallinson, Joah,

Eckett, Robert,

Matthews, William,

Farrer, Richard,

Mollineux, James,

Hughes, George,

Peters, John,

Rowland, David,
Sigston, James,

Wood, William,
Young, T. B.*

2. That Dr. Warren be the Corresponding Member of the Connexional Committee, to whom all communications on Connexional business should be addressed, (post paid) at No. 46, Tipping-street, Manchester.

3. That the instructions given to the Connexional Committee of last year, on the subject of union with other branches of the Methodist Family, be applicable also to the present Committee.

4. That in the event of a necessity arising for calling out additional Itinerant Preachers during the ensuing year, the Connexional Committee are directed, in consequence of the state of the finances, to exercise the greatest prudence and caution in any step of that nature; and, except in some special and extraordinary case, in which a majority of the whole Committee shall be required to concur, no *married* Preacher should be called into the Itinerant work.

5. That in the opinion of this Meeting it is very desirable that the Association should have a Magazine and a Book-room, and that it be referred to a Committee, to be hereafter appointed, to take this subject into consideration, and to adopt such means for the accomplishment of these objects, as they may deem most proper.

6. That the resolution of the present meeting of the Annual Assembly on the subject of a Magazine and Book-room, be referred to the Connexional Committee, to be by them carried into effect. And should the Committee deem it expedient to add to their number any person or persons to assist in the discharge of this part of

* The Committee on this occasion were chosen by ballot.

the duties assigned to them, the requisite authority for that purpose is now conceded. But in no other case shall an addition of numbers be made to the Committee.

XIX. *Resolved*, That in order to meet the peculiar circumstances of some Circuits in the Association, the salary of a single Preacher shall not be less than £60. per annum, or £7. 10s. per quarter and sufficient board and lodging.

XX. *Resolved*, That it be an instruction to the Connexional Committee to adopt measures for ascertaining and facilitating the progress of the Itinerant Preachers in those acquirements indispensable for a proper and acceptable discharge of their ministerial duties, during the period of their probation.

XXI. *Resolved*, That as we believe that those who are called by Christ to preach the Gospel, and who render their services gratuitously, are not thereby less qualified to exercise any of the offices of the Christian Ministry, than those who are maintained by the contributions of the Church; they, therefore, are eligible to be appointed by the Quarterly Meeting or the Societies, to discharge any of the offices of the Christian Ministry.

XXII. *Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this Meeting, no person should solicit contributions towards the erection of a Chapel or other premises from Members of the Association, in any Circuit but that in which he resides, without the circumstances of the case having *first* been laid before the Connexional Committee, and a recommendation in writing, signed by the President and Secretary, obtained for that purpose.

XXIII. *Resolved*, That the Itinerant Preachers shall be required to communicate, once a quarter, to the Connexional Committee, a statement, approved by the Leaders' Meeting of the Town Society, of the progress of the work of God in the Circuit in which they are stationed.

XXIV. *Resolved*, That as the objects of the Wesleyan Association are of a purely religious nature, and its Societies comprise individuals of different political opinions, it is the judgment of this Meeting that the Preachers, in the discharge of their ministerial duties, should most carefully avoid all allusion to subjects of a political character.

XXV. *Resolved*, That Dr. Warren be respectfully requested to publish the Address delivered by him, on Monday evening last, to the Preachers.

XXVI. *Resolved*, That an Abstract of the accounts of Receipts and Disbursements of the Home Mission and Connexional Fund be inserted in the Minutes, under the direction of the Committee.

XXVII. *Resolved*, That the Special Thanks of the Annual Assembly are due, and are hereby most respectfully presented, to the Rochdale friends, for their munificent contribution during the past year to the Home Mission and Connexional Fund.

XXVIII. *Resolved*, That this Meeting has great pleasure in placing on record, an expression of its sincere thanks to the Friends in Liverpool, who have liberally furnished accommodation to its Members.

XXIX. *Resolved*, From information recently received in this Country, it appears that] the benevolent objects contemplated by the Slavery Emancipation Act have, to a very great extent, been frustrated, in consequence of the Apprenticeship clause ; and that the most revolting cruelties are practised under the provisions of that clause. Regarding slavery, in all its modes, as contrary to the Word of God, and revolting to the best feelings of humanity, this Meeting therefore earnestly recommends the Members of the Wesleyan Association to render their assistance in aid of all lawful measures, to induce the Legislature to enforce immediate and full Emancipation.

XXX. *Resolved*, That this Meeting wishes to express its most cordial approval of the exertions made in this kingdom to counteract the awful prevalence of Intemperance, equally degrading to our fellow-creatures as members of civil society, and destructive to the interests of true religion ; and recommends to all the Preachers, Officers, and Members of the Association, to encourage, both by their advocacy and example, the efforts made by the various Temperance Societies to promote their important object.

XXXI. *Resolved*, That this Assembly receives with satisfaction the Address of the Annual Meeting of the United Methodist Churches, dated Edinburgh, September, 1836 ; and expresses its gratification at hearing of their welfare and prosperity. The Meeting indulges a confident hope, that the measures adopted on the present occasion, will tend more closely to unite the friends of

Methodism in Scotland, and also their highly respected representative, Mr. D. K. Shoebottom; with the Association.

XXXII. *Resolved*, That regarding the religious instruction of the rising generation as of the greatest possible importance to the welfare of mankind; the Meeting most earnestly desires that all the Preachers, Officers, and Members in the Association should use their utmost efforts in promoting the interests of Sabbath Schools.

XXXIII. *Resolved*, That the provisional regulations adopted by the Itinerant Preachers, on the subject of an Annuitant Society for their benefit, have the approval and sanction of this Meeting: this subject is referred to the Connexional Committee to afford its advice and assistance in the completion of what arrangements may be necessary.

XXXIV. The following Address of Condolence and Congratulation to Her Majesty the QUEEN, was submitted to the Meeting by Dr. Warren, and unanimously adopted by the whole of the Members rising from their seats.

*To Her Most Excellent Majesty, VICTORIA, by the
Grace of God, QUEEN of the United Kingdom of
Great Britain and Ireland.*

BELOVED SOVEREIGN,

WE, your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Representatives of upwards of twenty thousand

Members of a Religious Denomination, now assembled in the town of Liverpool, in the ANNUAL ASSEMBLY of the WESLEYAN ASSOCIATION, beg most humbly to approach YOUR MAJESTY, to express the deep affliction with which we, in common with the rest of our fellow-subjects, participated in the grief in which You, and the Members of your Illustrious Family, were recently involved by the demise of our late revered and beloved MONARCH, whose paternal solicitude for the establishment of the civil and religious freedom of all his subjects, has secured for himself a perpetual memorial of gratitude in the hearts of all those loyal subjects who had the happiness to live under his most auspicious reign.

Nor can we, on this memorable occasion, forbear to express our confident hope, from the examples furnished by your Royal Ancestors,—the affecting and solemn manner in which your dying Father commended You “to the divine protection of a Crucified Redeemer,”—the judicious superintendence of your Illustrious Mother, and from those special endowments of mind with which Divine Providence has enriched You,—that the felicitous circumstance of your being called upon to fill so exalted a situation so early in life, and yet of age sufficient to form for yourself a correct judgment of what will best promote the happiness of your subjects,—affords the most satisfactory presage of a long succession of years which shall advance

the political and religious prosperity of your kingdom, and establish your own future greatness.

Thankful to Almighty God for the distinguished mercy which has placed you, at this eventful crisis, on the throne of this Mighty Empire, we beg to assure Your Majesty of our dutiful and loyal affection to Your Majesty's Person and Government, and that we shall ever consider it to be a duty of the highest importance, and equally congenial to our hearts, to implore, both in public and private prayer, on your behalf, the special illumination, protection, and blessing of Almighty God, that your reign may be long and happy on earth, and finally, that you may be crowned with 'glory, honour, immortality, and eternal life.'

Signed by order, and on behalf of the
Annual Assembly,

JAMES LIVESEY, President,
MATTHEW JOHNSON, Secretary.

Liverpool, August 10th, 1837.

XXXV. ADDRESS OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY TO THE
MEMBERS OF THE WESLEYAN ASSOCIATION.

Liverpool, 11th August, 1837.

DEAR BRETHREN,

We rejoice to inform you, that upon reviewing the state of our Connexion during the past year, we find

abundant cause for ardent gratitude to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the great and only Head of the Church, for his presence and blessing which he has so graciously bestowed upon us. Notwithstanding the peculiar and trying circumstances in which our Connexion has been placed, we have, by the Divine blessing, been kept together in Christian unity and love. Our Societies are, generally, in a state of prosperity. On several of them the Holy Spirit has been abundantly poured out: many sinners have been converted from the error of their ways, and believers have been strengthened and established in their holy profession.

On Wednesday the 2nd inst., the Representatives sent by the different Circuits assembled in this town, and entered upon the important business of their meeting. After mature deliberation, resolutions have been adopted, declaring the fixed principles on which our Connexion is founded, and defining the Constitution and Functions of the Annual Assembly. We have also agreed to recommend for your adoption, a few resolutions relating to the formation and business of the local official meetings, and concerning private members. There are also several other important subjects on which we have expressed our judgment. In all our deliberations we have anxiously sought to be guided by the Word and Spirit of God, and

we hope that the result of our labours will be satisfactory to you, and promote the prosperity of our Connexion.

At the last Annual Assembly the number of Members belonging to the Association could not be ascertained, in consequence of several Circuits having neglected to send the number of their Members; we have now ascertained that there are joined in Church fellowship with us 21,275 Members.

Entering upon another year, we most affectionately and earnestly call upon you, to offer grateful acknowledgments to Almighty God for the favours he has bestowed upon us; to renew the consecration of yourselves to his service, and to importunately pray for the out-pouring of his Holy Spirit upon all our Societies, upon the Universal Church, and upon the whole family of mankind. In your several stations in life be careful to walk as becometh the Christian profession. In all your worldly transactions be distinguished by punctuality, veracity, and honesty. In the discharge of all relative duties, as husbands, as wives, as parents, as children, as masters, as servants, so conduct yourselves as to adorn the doctrines of God our Saviour. "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

We would also remind you of the danger of neglecting the means of grace : endeavour so to arrange your engagements, as to secure opportunities to attend meetings for Christian fellowship, and for prayer. Regard, as of the highest possible importance, the maintainance of family worship. Let the members of your family see that you are concerned for their salvation. Let the Word of God be your constant study ; believe its doctrines, obey its precepts, and enjoy all the blessings it offers through Christ. Forget not that as you are the property of God, he requires you to be engaged in his service ; and regard it not merely as your duty, but as your privilege to be employed in advancing the interests of his cause. Lay yourselves out for usefulness : especially give your aid in support of Sabbath Schools ; care for the rising generation ; endeavour to bring them into the fold of Christ. Go on, resisting sin : let your weapons be brought from the armoury of God, and quit yourselves like good soldiers of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We would also urge upon you the Apostolic injunction, “ Bear ye one another’s burdens.” In some of the remote country Circuits, our brethren are unable to raise sufficient funds to support an Itinerant Ministry. Without assistance from the Home Missionary and Connexional Fund, the Preachers stationed among them would have to be withdrawn. Other Circuits have re-

quested Preachers to be stationed among them, where there is reason to believe that their labours would be productive of much good; but, at present, for want of sufficient funds, their requests cannot be granted. We indulge the hope, that in all our Circuits, and especially among our wealthier brethren, due exertions will be made to support *that fund* by which alone the help they require can be afforded; and that the amount of your contributions will be worthy your Christian profession, and proportionate to the means placed by the providence of God at your disposal.

Brethren, be encouraged and animated by past success, and by the prospect which lies before you. Remember the word of Him who hath said, "It shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's House shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills, and all nations shall flow unto it." Speedily may the period arrive when earth shall borrow the language of heaven, and when one grand chorus shall burst from every land, "Hallelujah! for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth! The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign for ever!!"

Signed by order, and on behalf of the
Annual Assembly,

JAMES LIVESY, President.

MATTHEW JOHNSON, Secretary.

XXXVI. *Resolved*, 1. That the next Annual Assembly be held in Rochdale, on the first Thursday in August, 1838, to commence at nine o'clock in the morning.

2. That the President, Secretary, and such Members of the Connexional Committee as may be appointed representatives to the Annual Assembly, be requested to meet on the Tuesday previous; to draw up an outline of the Stations, and make other preparatory arrangements for the despatch of business at the Annual Assembly.

Signed by order, and on behalf of the
Annual Assembly,

JAMES LIVESEY, President,

MATTHEW JOHNSON, Secretary.

Liverpool, August 11th, 1837.

TABULAR VIEW OF THE WESLEYAN ASSOCIATION, 1837-8.

CIRCUITS.	Itinerant Preachers.	Local Preachers.	Local Preachers on trial.	Leaders.	Members in Society.	Members in Society on trial.	Chapels.	Preaching Pla- ces, Rooms, &c.	Sunday Schools.	Sunday School Scholars.	Teachers.
Manchester	5	62	..	187	3092	140	13	15	24	6500	..
Liverpool	2	35	..	67	1406	..	4	4	7	1177	176
Leeds	3	38	4	..	1486	148	9	10	..	..	..
Rochdale and Bury	2	46	..	90	1710	86	9	21	12	5560	..
London .....	..	24	1	..	560	..	3	10	10	900	..
Brompton and Chatham..	..	..	..	..	94	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sittingbourne .....	..	..	..	..	50	..	..	..	..	..	..
Macclesfield	1	..	..	..	69	..	..	..	..	..	..
Stockport and Hazel Grove	1	5	1	8	106	12	2	1	2	152	30
New Mills	1	16	3	27	400	25	2	15	5	1050	..
Todmorden	1	21	..	43	627	..	3	9	7	890	..
Burnley	2	17	5	..	520	39	5	13	6	1160	213
Northwich	1	25	4	27	669	..	..	..	7	792	..
Nantwich	1	32	2	34	440	10	5	16	6	655	..
Ruabon	1	25	..	24	301	6	7	14	5	310	..
Blackburn	1	24	..	27	350	..	3	7	5	1130	..
Preston	1	22	1	16	240	10	4	5	5	500	..
Keighley	1	19	..	15	268	33	3	3	..	..	..
Clitheroe	1	11	1	15	259	..	..	8	..	600	60
Sheffield	1	19	..	17	245	..	3	5	4	430	..
Worksop	1	7	3	15	166	34	2	8	3	210	26
Barnsley	1	9	13	22	298	..	3	11	4	600	..
Bradford	1	5	..	..	140	150	..	3	..	..	..
Ipswich	1	8	3	..	160	31	1	6	1	100	..
Birmingham	1	19	4	16	238	..	2	7	4	301	..
Redditch	1	11	..	8	144	20	1	3	2	120	..
Worcester	1	9	2	9	112	..	..	6	1	60	..
Nuneaton	1	22	..	16	200	..	4	2	3	180	..
Bristol and Worle	1	11	..	3	116	..	3	7	1	60	..
Camelford	4	65	18	..	845	..	27	32	12	..	..
Helston	1	13	1	..	310	10	9	7	..	..	..
Tavistock and Devonport	..	..	..	..	291	..	..	..	..	..	..
Winchester .....	..	..	..	..	209	..	3	12	..	..	..
Nottingham	1	16	6	..	405	..	..	..	..	402	..
Derby	2	50	7	41	500	50	10	11	1	400	..
Leicester	1	..	..	..	433	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hull	1	6	..	..	270	38	1	4	..	..	..
Louth and Alford	1	6	4	7	75	13	1	1	..	..	..
York	1	10	..	9	197	16	1	5	1	130	..
Scarborough	1	8	..	5	104	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whitby	1	4	2	..	80	..	1	5	1	50	8
Sunderland	2	17	7	49	990	89	10	11	..	..	..
Newcastle-on-Tyne	1	..	1	6	79	3	..	1	2	512	93
Darlington	1	22	5	23	318	7	4	14	4	384	..
Stockton and Yarm .....	..	..	..	..	180	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whitehaven	1	21	..	19	300	..	2	14	..	320	..
Kendal .....	..	4	..	..	31	..	..	..	..	..	..
Appleby	1	12	5	..	160	..	2	5	2	200	..
Carlisle	1	18	8	33	515	13	4	9	8	100	..
Edinburgh	1	5	..	10	146	..	..	3	1	100	..
Glasgow .....	..	5	..	7	103	..	1	..	3	300	..
Dundee .....	..	..	..	..	250	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carrickfergus .....	..	..	..	..	13	..	..	..	..	..	..
					21,275						

Statement of last year's Contributions, and probable Amounts of Contributions to and Claims upon the Home Mission and Connexional Fund for the year ensuing.

CIRCUITS.	Nos.	Last Year's Contribu- tions.	Probable Contribu- tions, 1838.			Probable Claims, 1838.		
		£. s. d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Manchester	3092	95 16 6	100	0	0	60	0	0
Liverpool	1406	51 13 6	50	0	0	30	0	0
Leeds	1486	22 4 8	50	0	0	.....	
Rochdale and Bury	1710	482 5 2	80	0	0	.....	
London	560	10 0 0	10	0	0	.....	
Brompton and Chatham....	94	2 0 0	}	5	0 0	.....	
Sittingbourne	50	2 5 0				.....	
Macclesfield	69	.....	5	0	0	30	0	0
Stockport	106	1 0 0	5	0	0	5	0	0
New Mills	400	9 14 0	10	0	0	.....	
Todmorden	627	20 2 1	20	0	0	.....	
Burnley	520	14 13 7	10	0	0	.....	
Northwich	669	6 2 7	10	0	0	.....	
Nantwich	440	.....	20	0	0	20	0	0
Ruabon	301	2 12 0	3	0	0	.....	
Blackburn	350	5 10 0	5	0	0	.....	
Preston	240	7 2 6	7	0	0	.....	
Keighley	268	6 0 0	5	0	0	10	0	0
Clitheroe	259	.....	5	0	0	20	0	0
Sheffield	245	.....	10	0	0	30	0	0
Worksop	166	.....	5	0	0	5	0	0
Barnsley	298	.....	10	0	0	50	0	0
Bradford	140	6 1 8	5	0	0	25	0	0
Ipswich	160	.....	.....			.....
Birmingham	238	6 8 3	5	0	0	5	0	0
Redditch	144	.....	2	0	0	.....	
Worcester	112	.....	5	0	0	20	0	0
Nuneaton	200	.....	3	0	0	.....	
Bristol and Worle	116	.....	.....			.....
Camelford	845	10 0 0	10	0	0	.....	
Helston	310	10 0 0	10	0	0	.....	
Tavistock, and Devonport..	291	2 0 0	5	0	0	.....	
Winchester	209	.....	5	0	0	.....	
Nottingham	405	.....	10	0	0	40	0	0
Derby	500	.....	25	0	0	.....	
Leicester	438	.....	6	0	0	6	0	0
Hull	270	5 15 7	5	0	0	10	0	0
Louth and Alford	75	2 6 0	2	0	0	20	0	0
York	197	6 11 6	6	0	0	.....	
Scarborough	104	.....	.....			20	0	0
Whitby	80	.....	10	0	0	10	0	0
Sunderland	990	.....	10	0	0	.....	
Newcastle-on-Tyne	79	4 0 0	4	0	0	20	0	0
Darlington	318	11 0 0	10	0	0	.....	
Stockton and Yarm	180	.....	.....			.....
Whitehaven	300	10 7 6	10	0	0	10	0	0
Kendal	31	.....	.....			.....
Appleby	160	.....	.....			.....
Carlisle	515	.....	.....			.....
Edinburgh	146	.....	.....			.....
Glasgow	103	.....	.....			.....
Dundee	250	.....	.....			.....
Carriekfergus	13	.....	.....			.....
	21,275	813 12 1	573	0	0	446	0	0

ACCOUNT CURRENT OF THE HOME MISSION AND CONNEXIONAL FUND, FROM AUGUST, 1836, TO AUGUST, 1837.

Dr. *The Treasurer of the Wesleyan Association.*

Per Contra.

Cr.

1837.			£.	s.	p.
Aug. 11.	To the Manchester Circuit Contributions towards the Home Mission and Connexional Fund		95	16	6
"	Liverpool ditto ditto..		51	3	6
"	Leeds ditto ditto..		22	4	8
"	Rochdale ditto ditto..		469	5	2
"	Bury ditto ditto..		13	0	0
"	London ditto ditto..		10	0	0
"	Brompton and Chatham ditto ditto..		2	0	0
"	Sittingbourne ditto ditto..		2	5	0
"	Stockport ditto ditto..		1	0	0
"	New Mills ditto ditto..		9	14	0
"	Todmorden ditto ditto..		20	2	1
"	Burnley ditto ditto..		14	13	7
"	Northwich ditto ditto..		6	2	7
"	Ruabon ditto ditto..		2	12	0
"	Blackburn ditto ditto..		5	10	0
"	Preston ditto ditto..		7	2	6
"	Keighley ditto ditto..		6	0	0
"	Bradford ditto ditto..		6	1	8
"	Birmingham ditto ditto..		6	8	3
"	Camelford ditto ditto..		10	0	0
"	Helston ditto ditto..		10	0	0
"	Devonport ditto ditto..		2	0	0
"	Hull ditto ditto..		5	15	7
"	Louth ditto ditto..		2	6	0
"	York ditto ditto..		6	11	6
"	Newcastle-upon-Tyne ditto ditto..		4	0	0
"	Darlington ditto ditto..		11	0	0
"	Whitehaven ditto ditto..		10	7	6
	To Cash from various places for last year's "Minutes of the Annual Assembly"		21	2	9
"	Ditto ditto for Quarterly Society Tickets, &c.		13	1	7

£ 847 6 5

To balance in the Treasurer's hands..... £ 89 2 5

N. B.—The above statement does not include a balance due to the Treasurer of £64 0 7, on the former account.

1837.			£.	s.	p.
Aug. 11.	By Salary to a single Preacher as the President's assistant at Manchester		60	0	0
"	Deficiencies of Preacher's support at Stockport..		22	16	9
"	Ditto ditto at New Mills..		10	0	0
"	Ditto ditto at Ruabon		36	3	0
"	Ditto ditto at Keighley ..		25	0	0
"	Ditto ditto at Sheffield....		19	8	0
"	Ditto ditto at Worksop ..		10	0	0
"	Ditto ditto at Barnsley....		24	12	1
"	Ditto ditto at Bradford....		59	0	0
"	Ditto ditto at Birmingham		16	1	9
"	Ditto ditto at Worcester..		15	17	0
"	Ditto ditto at Louth		30	0	0
"	Ditto ditto at York.....		66	1	0
"	Ditto ditto at Whitby.....		50	0	0
"	Ditto ditto at Whitehaven		32	0	0
"	Messrs. Cave and Sever's bill for printing Minutes, Circulars, Addresses, Tickets, &c.....		55	7	6
"	Mr. Thackery's bill for stationery		1	17	4
"	Mr. Burgess's bill for printing.....		1	6	0
"	Messrs. Sheppard and Souter's expenses on a deputation to Dudley		8	12	0
"	The President and Mr. Eckett's expenses on a deputation to Carlisle and Edinburgh		12	12	0
"	Postages, stationery, carriage of parcels, &c. paid by the President during the year.....		9	3	9
"	Messrs. Souter, Hibbert, and Roebuck's expenses on a deputation		1	14	0
"	Salary to Mr. S. Tucker, as Clerk of the Association		50	0	0
"	Expenses connected with Mr. Logan's case at Burnley		36	0	0
"	Allowance to the Burnley Circuit for furniture ..		12	0	0
"	Expenses for Preacher's house at York, 1836.....		20	0	0
"	Ditto additional for ditto ditto, 1837.....		10	0	0
"	Allowance to the President, by request of the Connexional Committee, for extra expenses on his extensive journeys during the past year.....		20	0	0
"	Board and lodging of five Preachers during their examination at Manchester		4	7	5
"	Travelling expenses of seven Preachers coming to Liverpool for examination, and to be received into full Connexion, by order of the Connexional Committee		8	16	0
"	Grant to Mr. Breare, including travelling expenses, by order of the Annual Assembly		12	0	0
"	Grant to Brother Joseph Ward, on going from Nuneaton to Louth.....		10	0	0
"	Advertisements, postages, &c. paid by the Secretary		3	6	0
"	Booking parcels, paper for packages, &c.....		0	13	2
"	Travelling expenses of the Secretary and Clerk to the Annual Assembly		2	9	3
"	Charge of reporting proceedings of the Annual Assembly		10	0	0
"	Balance		89	2	5

£ 847 6 5

We have examined the above Account Current, and find it correct.

SAMUEL WARREN,
GEORGE HUGHES.

CAVE AND SEVER, PRINTERS, MANCHESTER.